Serial No. 09/993,026 Examiner: Brevard, Maerena W.

## **Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the abstract with the following paragraph:

The invention relates to a roof-rack bar for automobile vehicles comprising a transverse bar and two fastening feet mounted at the ends of the transverse bar. The feet operate in conjunction with side rails mounted on an automobile vehicle, wherein the feet can slide along the side rails during adjustment. The angle between the transverse bar and each of the side rails remains substantially constant when the bar is displaced. At least one of the feet includes a housing in which one end of the transverse bar can slide between two extreme positions in order to adapt to a variable distance between non-parallel side rails. This housing includes a first locking and reinforcement means capable of operating in conjunction with a second locking and reinforcement means fitted on the transverse bar to immobilize or authorize the displacement of the end of the transverse bar in the housing.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, as follows:

They may, for example, be studs 31–131 created on a sliding part 13 that have a sloped plane 1311 provided to operate in conjunction with a foot 121 of the rack.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 15, as follows:

More precisely, in the embodiment illustrated feet 121 of rack 12 are inserted in openings made in the body of the transverse bar. The measurements of recesses 101–102 are designed to guide the transversal translation of feet 121 of rack 12 without hindering sliding, i.e. by limiting friction with the surfaces of feet 121.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 21, as follows:

The length of rack 12 is suited to the potential travel of the transverse bar in housing 111. It clearly depends on the requirements and particularly on the required travel, the measurements of rack 12, the number of feet 121 and the number of matching recesses 101-102 can easily be suited.